The Pulpit

A SERMON BY THE REV. IRA W. HENDERSON

Subject: Heroism.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Preaching at the Irving Square Presbyterian church, Hamburg avenue and Weirfield street, on the above theme, the Rev. Ira Wemmell Henderson, pastor, took as his text Daniel, ii:28. He said:

The courage of these men was sublime. Their heroism was humanly able. The story of their strength of character is not a story of men who simply easily have played the king false by bowing down to Baal in Moab while still serving their God in their hearts. In all likelihood Nebuchadnezzar would have been astounded had they simply bent the knee to his gods. And how could a mere man, even though he were a king, divine the devotions of their inmost hearts? Here was a place where most men would have considered discretion the better part of valor. Here was a chance for compromise in exchange for the sake of saving one's life. Here was the supreme test of their characters. They might have made excuses for themselves to their own minds and to God, and have worshiped the golden image. They did neither of these true Jews. They served the God of Israel, who had said unto His people by the mouth of Moses the deliverer and law-giver, "Thou shalt not bow down unto them nor serve them." Therefore, they stood even when the sound of all kinds of music made the multitude fall down. And standing, they are monuments to moral heroism.

Heroism has great value in life and is varied. Without it we could not make much, if any progress. A man may be as a prophet in his perception and comprehension of divine truth, but if he lack heroism his powers are largely unavailable to society. Conviction needs courage to become a living force. It is one thing to have a vision, and another to declare it. It is one thing to have knowledge, and another to expound it. It is one thing to have a valid and substantiated opinion, and another to state it. It is one thing to detect sham and sin, and another to unmask them.

The world is full of men who could do evil to the devil in many a place and did they only dare. But it is so manifestly safe to know the truth and another to stand up for it and to proclaim it.

The value of heroism cannot be denied. With it Moses faced the terrors and the torments of the desert and the threatenings of the wandering people of God. With it Isaiah and the prophets assailed mighty sin in the name of Almighty God. With it Columbus sailed the wide, uncharted seas, and discovered America for the ready world. With it Luther hurled defiance to the machinations of Rome and reformation and marked an epoch in the majestic march of Christhood toward our present liberty of thought. With it the heroes of Valley Forge kept the faith for civil liberty and gave the impulse to the spirit the slave was freed. Without it Jesus would never have become our Saviour.

Valuable as heroism is, it is not always valued. For heroism is individual and social, physical and moral, lustrous and humble.

The men of Lexington and Santiago, of Trafalgar and of Waterloo, the heroes of Hebrew history and of the Crusades, the hosts who followed Washington or Napoleon or Wellington or Stonewall Jackson or any of the famous captains of armies, ancient or modern, are examples of what we may term physical social heroism. Many were the instances of humble, individual moral courage displayed by soldiers serving under all these military geniuses. And yet, in the last analysis, their heroism was that of brute strength let loose and dependent, as much as upon anything, upon the fare, and the fanfare, and the smell and sight of blood, and the crowd moving together to the battle for its inspiration and its sustentation. It is not my purpose to inalienate that; even under these conditions it is an easy thing to fare forth to try conclusions with fate. It is to be commended with the pluck needed to do many another deed It is easy.

There is, too, an individualistic, lustrous heroism which is even less trying and exacting. He is a hero, a hero indeed, who, for the sake of God, will lead a willing army on to a fight where victory is sure, or who will point the way to a moral victory to men who are with him and who sight the same truth that he sees. And many a man has lacked the heroism to lead even though the skies were full of portents of success. It is so much easier to relinquish the responsibility of leadership to another. Officers are needed much.

We must admit a great measure of physical heroism in the active or passive who will tear his strength against the wild animal that would take his life. It takes more than mere as muscle to meet a bully who richly needs and deserves a thrashing, and make him eat the dust. But in the category of heroic virtues these are the least.

At this time I would call your attention to the heroisms which we have and need in our daily life, the heroisms of the humble, moral host who constitute the militancy of the land and who are the backbone of America, the men and women and children who in an inconspicuous, but none the less efficient, fashion, give themselves as living sacrifices upon the altar of devotion to God and home and country. I would have you also remember if you have been so ungracious as to forget the sayings of that countless host of simple, homely people who daily live for the meaning of good and the public weal. I would call to your attention the heroisms of our day who, in the face of sin and of opposition and of, militant and unperilous self-satisfaction, are effecting the salvation of America and those to her people how to help themselves.

For we have much heroism, and it's sort in this land. And more

It is easy in a way to fall into line and to march down to the war when the summons comes and the music plays and the drum beats and you know that death will earn us deathless, though perhaps not individual fame. But what is the courage of the leader or the soldier in the front line of the fierce fight to that of the toiler who, day by day, works and plans and slaves and lives that children may be reared and prepared for life and the home be kept intact? That father yonder who, from sunrise to sunset, day in and day out, in health and sickness, when sad or glad, toils for his family's sake; is he not heroic? That mother, with her cleanly brood

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR OCT. 13 BY THE REV. I. W. HENDERSON.

Subject: Israel Enters the Land of Promise, Josh. 3:5-17—Golden Text, Ps. 107.7—Memory Verse, 17—Commentary.

In accordance with the promise of God, Israel enters the land of Canaan. Under the direct and marvelous manifestation of God's providence they cross the Jordan and stand within sight of the walls of Jericho.

Joshua's words, as given in the fifth verse of our lesson, compel our attention. "Sanctify yourselves, for to-morrow the Lord will do wonders among you." It is a call to consecration because God is to work wonders among them and because God will not manifest Himself, and cannot except they are prepared.

The dedication of themselves was followed as we may a transcendent manifestation of the providence and potency of God. The rite of sanctification was fitting.

Israel was upon the threshold of a new experience. She was about to enter into a new life. The hopes of generations, the promises of centuries were about to be consummated. It was a solemn time. The day was momentous. History was in the making, but Israel was aware of it. The wandering multitude must have been impressed by it. A new epoch was about to begin. A nation was coming to its own. To-day, the wilderness, its memories, its hardships, its discouragements, the vision of a promised land, inheritance! To-morrow, Jordan passed, hopes realized, promises fulfilled, memories translated into hopes. It was a mighty moment.

It was practical that they should be peculiarly prepared. It was right that there should be impressed by the greatness of the occasion. The event was God's and therefore was to be solemnized and signalized by a special ceremony. The God who had made them so far, so patiently, so decisively, was entitled to the dedication and the thanks of all Israel. They had to consecrate themselves because God was about to exalt them, because the manifestation of Jehovah's power was impossible without their submission entirely to His will.

So it is now ever been. So will it ever be. No man and no nation has enjoyed the revelation of the plenitude of the power of God except the individual or national will has been subordinated to the dictates of Divinity. And no people will ever experience a satisfactory knowledge of the loving providence of God except the personal or popular volition be subjected to the mandates of the mind of God. Whenever and wherever persons or peoples identify themselves before God, acknowledging their indebtedness to Him, submitting their obligations under Him, pledging their faith in undivided loyalty to Him, then will there God has ever manifested Himself and does manifest Himself. The lesson or the lessons in future determine to thank God and to hail Him and to serve Him then will Jehovah manifest Himself mightily. Israel has proved it. America has proved it. It is to be hoped that America will demonstrate the truth again.

We are on the highway of human progress America has traveled under the espionage of God to national greatness. We have triumphed over difficulties. We have been victorious over opposition and gone through distresses and afflictions and despair. We are now upon the border of a tremendous crisis and of increased national prestige. No man of vision can fail to discern in the signs of the times limitless opportunities for the development of our national resources in money and men, in influences and character. The achievements of America of to-day are but slight adumbrations of the glory that may be hers in coming years if she will, as she stands on the threshold of her future, bring unto God in self in spirit and in truth.

We cannot be at for larger usefulness except we are right with God and dedicated to Him. Jehovah cannot utilize us more until we subject ourselves to Him.

In order that we shall be ready for service and experience in the furtherance of the projects of the Almighty as they concern America we must pay heed to the command of Joshua to Israel as given in the ninth verse of the lesson we are studying: "Come hither and hear the words of the Lord your God." For we cannot build wisely and securely upon America a building that shall be durable and beautiful. We cannot do God's work until we hear His voice. To serve efficiently we must hear the divine command. To be used mightily for God we must listen to God.

Much of the leadership of America listens little to God. In the measure that we have a leadership that is deaf to divine directions, we are misled, we are badly misled. For progress is only possible when we are in harmony with the will of God. We cannot know God's mind except we listen to God's voice.

The task that God has delivered to America, the future that He has prepared for her, is too great to be accomplished without His inspiration, direction, His sustentation. America's future is cut after a divine pattern. Only Divinity can effect its realization. Only that humanity that is acchored with infinity will ever enjoy the vision of it. Let us therefore listen to the word of the Lord our God and with sanctified souls go on and up until this land shall be indeed God's country and the future of our fatherland shall be secured.

The Miracle of Tan.

Has it ever struck you that sunburn is a miracle? Probably not, Yet such it is.

When you go down to the seashore and bask in the summer sun the heat attacks you fiercely, first reddening your skin, then swelling, blistering and scorching it. If you keep in the sun long enough and the miracle did not occur, the scorching would you, burning off your skin first and then fiercely attacking the raw flesh.

But the miracle does occur. The skin changes from its pale color to a tan, and upon this tan the sun has no effect. The sun may beat on a tan-colored skin for days, for weeks, for months, but the skin will remain always sound.—Answers.

FLORAL SCANDAL.

"You can't paint the lily," declared Ah rose.

"Maybe not," responded the aster, "But have you noticed?"

"Noticed what?"

"The lily pads!"—Washington Lippincott's.

The Profitable Hog.

The profitable pig is the one that can be sent to market before it is nine months old. The ones that weigh in the neighborhood of 200 pounds at this age are the ones that are wanted.

A Simple Cure For Wounds.

Here is an easy and sure way to heal wounds caused by barbed wire on horses or cattle. Keep the wound covered with hair-saked limeby sprinkling or throwing it on. As the blood comes through sprinkle on more so as to keep the sore dry. It is said that this treatment will cure wounds that are several inches long and quite deep.

Advice For the Farmer.

Farming is a business (or many different kinds of business in one), and he who neglects his farm in any way neglects his business. Industry and good management will cure most of the imaginary evils farmers are complaining of. Let the farmer educate himself and family, make his home and farm attractive and his surroundings as pleasant as possible.

Milking Stool.

The ordinary milking stool is a cumbersome thing with more bulk and weight than is necessary. The accompanying illustration shows a stool that may be fitted with one, two

or three legs, one being sufficient, if braced. The seat may be circular and can be fastened around the waist of the milker.

Handling a Colt.

In handling a colt its instincts and tendencies should never be lost sight of, such as kicking, striking and running away from anything it conceives to be dangerous. Its faculties of seeing, smelling and hearing are very acute, and are given it for self-preservation.

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The Nation's Capital

Some Interesting Happenings Briefly Told.

Secretary Straus is planning a lobbying patrol to keep Japanese and other Asiatic laborers from coming in via Mexico and Canada.

Consul W. C. Gracey, at Tsingtau, reports that the supply of anthracite coal in Northern China is comparatively inexhaustible.

Thomas Mead committed suicide in the poor house grounds in Meridan, Ct., just as his father did 10 years ago.

Samuel J. McCarroll, United States attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, has resigned to accept judgeship in one of the Pennsylvania state courts.

Scores of remonstrances against executive approval of the Oklahoma constitution have reached the Department of Justice.

Secretary Straus and Commissioner Sargent have determined to eliminate the woman slave traffic from the United States.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has appointed a committee to investigate the wear of railway equipment.

Lt. Charles S. Smith, of the Insurance Department, will be appointed a brigadier general.

Admiral Prince Bonaparte has decided that the Navy may use foreign ships for transporting coal from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The government is preparing to push its pending suit against the Tobacco Trust.

At the request of District Attorney Baker the case of the San Francisco real estate men accused of being involved in the graft prosecutions in the District Supreme Court was indefinitely postponed.

A chemical laboratory for testing the powder aboard the ships on the Asiatic station is to be established in the Philippines.

Application was made to the Supreme Court to take jurisdiction in the packing-house rebate cases.

The percentage of desertions from the Navy is smaller than it was last year.

Only one American company secured President Roosevelt's offer for the transportation of coal to the Pacific fleet.

Capt. T. S. Phelps was designated as the commandant of the Mare Island Navy Yard.

William P. Duvall was appointed a major general.

Rear-Admiral Sebree, who will command the advance squadron of the battleship fleet that is to sail for the Pacific, will raise his flag on the Tennessee on the 8th.

The Insular Affairs Department announced the consummation of negotiations with foreign governments for an international reply coupon system.

The new Pure Food Law, requiring accurate labeling of food products, went into effect Tuesday.

A receiver was appointed for the Washington, Arlington & Falls Church Railway Company.

Secretary Straus is the author of foreign postage went into effect Tuesday.

ORDERS CAPTAIN PUNISHED.

President Says His Misconduct Might Have Caused Accident.

Indianapolis, Ind. (Special).—President Roosevelt has ordered that Capt. Monroe and Williams, steamboat inspectors at Evansville, directing them to suspend temporarily the license of the master of the steamer Fred J. Hartweg, of Paducah, Ky., for his reckless navigation of the Ohio river, be reinstated.

The order was issued in line with the posit's eye until he sees fit, from which America will demonstrate the truth again.

Bobby's Reason.

Little Bobby was saying his prayers at his mother's knee, but so rapidly that she asked him why he did not speak more slowly.

"Because, you know," he replied, "it would keep all the other children waiting!"—Lippincott's.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY ONLY PAID HALF RATE

An Omnibus Contract With Steamship Companies.

PROTESTS WERE ALL IGNORED.

Testimony of Philip Harris, Manager of the New York Lubricating Oil Company—W. W. Tarbell, Treasurer of the Pure Oil Company and the United States Pipe Line Company.

New York (Special).—An omnibus contract, whereby the Standard Oil Company obtains from every steamship company operating between New York and all ports in Africa a rate for the shipment of lubricating oil that is about one-half what its competitor, the New York Lubricating Company pays, was produced in the hearing of the federal suit against the alleged oil combine. The contract was placed in evidence, and Philip Harrison, a manager of the New York Lubricating Oil Company, testified that his company was forced to pay double the Standard rate, after bonding his protests to the steamship companies. Mr. Harrison said that by reason of the freight discrimination the Standard could place its products in Africa at less than the usual price of the oil of his own company, and that it maintains the African trade of the New York Lubricating Oil Company was forced to purchase from the Standard the cheaper grade of oil sold to its customers.

Mr. Harrison said that shipping charges to his company were increased from 17 shillings until they reached 42 shillings 6 pence in 1905. The witness declared that he wrote a letter to the steamship agents demanding suitable rates for the company, but no change in the charges was made.

W. W. Tarbell, of Philadelphia, treasurer of the Pure Oil Company and of the United States Pipe Line Company, related the difficulties his companies had encountered in competition with the Standard. Mr. Tarbell stated that the business of the Pure Oil Company was placed in districts selected with a view to giving the business relation with certain railroads, where discrimination could be continued, were more feared by the Standard than the competition of the Standard in open competition. Mr. Tarbell, in reply to Mr. Tarbell, who has a written a book about the Standard Oil Company.

Mrs. Sage Gives $20,000.

St. Paul, Minn. (Special).—The directors of the St. Paul Young Women's Christian Association announced that Mrs. Russell Sage has given the association $20,000 toward the new building, for which a $15,000 site was recently donated by a St. Paul citizen. The directors have been to have the building as a part of the general building fund with some special feature in the building.

Recommends $5,000,000 Fine.

Memphis, Tenn. (Special).—A special dispatch from Hot Springs, Ark., says that, alleging 660 offenses in violation of the inter-state laws of the State, District Attorney H. B. Means has entered suits against the Southern Express Company, Adams Express Company and the Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company, asking that penalties aggregating $3,000,000 be assessed.

Telstol Besieged By Beggars.

St. Petersburg (By Cable).—A letter was published here from Count Tolstoi asking that the stream of requests for financial assistance addressed to him be discontinued, explaining that his income has been rendered his property to his heirs and that he has only the sole sums at his disposal now "as national foreign contributions which I distribute among the neighborhood."

Historic Mill Destroyed.

Philadelphia (Special).—Fire destroyed the historic Kryden Mill, at Frankford, this morning. The original mill was built in 1767, and was one of the bases of supply from which General Washington obtained flour for his soldiers while the army was encamped at Valley Forge. The police believe the fire was started by tramps who had used the mill as a shelter.

IN THE FINANCIAL WORLD.

More copper mines were closed and the metal in considerable quantity sold under 15 cents a pound.

Failures in the business world in the past week of United States Steel and Iron